

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
IN ORIGINAL APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the invention entitled:

A METHOD AND AN APPARATUS FOR GASIFYING A LIQUID MATERIAL

the specification of which:

(check one)

☐ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on _____ as

Application Serial No. _____

and was amended on _____
(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Foreign Application(s), if any, for Patent or Inventor's Certificate Filed Within 12 Months Prior to the Filing Date of This Application:

Country	Application No.	Date of Filing (day, month, year)	Priority Claimed Under 35 U.S.C. 119
Japan	11-260819	14th, September 1999	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Japan	2000-225445	26th, July 2000	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	Yes _____ No _____
_____	_____	_____	Yes _____ No _____
_____	_____	_____	Yes _____ No _____
_____	_____	_____	Yes _____ No _____

All Foreign Applications, if any, for Patent or Inventor's Certificate Filed More Than 12 Months Prior to the Filing Date of This Application:

Country	Application No.	Date of Filing
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(1) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)
(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)
(patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Joseph W. Price (Reg. 25,124)
Albin H. Gess (Reg. 25,726)
Franklin D. Ubell (Reg. 27,009)

Joseph C. Andras (Reg. 33,469)

Send Correspondence To:

PRICE, GESS & UBELL
2100 S.E. Main Street, Suite 250
Irvine, California 92714
Telephone: 714/261-8433

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both (18 U.S.C. 1001) and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR Hiroshi NISHIZATO		INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE		DATE
RESIDENCE c/o STEC INC. , 2 Miyanohigashi-machi Kissyojin, Minami-ku, Kyoto, Japan		CITIZENSHIP Japan		
POST OFFICE ADDRESS same as above				
FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR, IF ANY Hideaki MIYAMOTO		INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE		DATE
RESIDENCE c/o STEC INC. , 2 Miyanohigashi-machi Kissyojin, Minami-ku, Kyoto, Japan		CITIZENSHIP Japan		
POST OFFICE ADDRESS same as above				
FULL NAME OF THIRD JOINT INVENTOR, IF ANY		INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE		DATE
RESIDENCE		CITIZENSHIP		
POST OFFICE ADDRESS				
FULL NAME OF FOURTH JOINT INVENTOR, IF ANY		INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE		DATE
RESIDENCE		CITIZENSHIP		
POST OFFICE ADDRESS				
FULL NAME OF FIFTH JOINT INVENTOR, IF ANY		INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE		DATE
RESIDENCE		CITIZENSHIP		
POST OFFICE ADDRESS				
FULL NAME OF SIXTH JOINT INVENTOR, IF ANY		INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE		DATE
RESIDENCE		CITIZENSHIP		
POST OFFICE ADDRESS				

DECLARATION SUPPORTING CLAIM FOR SMALL ENTITY STATUS

The undersigned hereby declare(s) that this statement is made to support a claim by the below identified entity for purposes of paying reduced fees under Sections 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, with regard to an invention entitled _____ invented by _____ and described in _____

- ☒ the specification filed herewith.
☐ application Serial No. _____
☐ Patent No. , issued .

☐ a. I am/we are the inventor(s) of the above-identified application.

☐ b. I/we would qualify as (an) independent inventor(s) as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.9(c) if I/we had made the above-identified application, and rights under contract law with regard to the above-identified invention have been conveyed to and remain with me/us.

☒ c. I am ☐ the owner ☒ an official of the below-identified small business concern; rights under contract law with regard to the above-identified invention have been conveyed to and remain with the below-identified small business concern; and this concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 C.F.R. 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under sections 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Codes, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons, said number being determined and said affiliates being defined in 13 C.F.R. 121.3-18.

No rights in the invention have been assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed or further assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, and there is no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, or further assign, grant, convey or license such rights to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which any rights in the invention have been assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or further assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or further assign, grant, convey or license, or as to where there is an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license such rights is listed below:

- ☒ no such person, concern, or organization
☐ persons, concerns or organizations listed below*

*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 C.F.R. 1.27)

FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

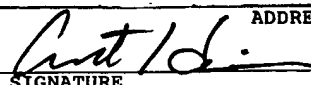
FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I/we acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 C.F.R. 1.28(b))

I/we further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
NAME OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN	ADDRESS	August 17, 2000
Atushi HORIBA		
NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
President		
TITLE		